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10 September 1948

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: Meeting of SANACC Subcommittee  
on Psychological Warfare

1. The SANACC Subcommittee on Psychological Warfare met at 10:00 in Room 5105, New State, with the following members present:

Chairman - Mr. Ralph Block	- State Department
Comdr. David Knell	- Navy Department
Col. Clyde Rich	- Air Force
Col. H. F. Cunningham	- Army Department

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2. As indicated in SANACC information memorandum No. 140, Col. Cunningham has replaced McNamara as the Army member of the Subcommittee. Mr. Block consumed considerable time in presenting a background picture of the committee and its work for Col. Cunningham, who appeared to be very sympathetic to all of Mr. Block's remarks.

3. Toward the end of his oral presentation, Mr. Block informed the Subcommittee that the trend today is for the Department of State to assume the planning and coordinating responsibilities for overt psychological warfare for use in war or threat of war. By this he meant that the Department of State would take over the function from SANACC and would still have representation from the service agencies and from CIA, just as our virulent Subcommittee operates today. A paper on that subject is being prepared by "someone" in the Department of State and this will be sent to the National Security Council for approval.

4. SANACC 304/16 proposed the establishment of certain technical assistance for planning a psychological warfare agency. Mr. Block said that Navy was ready to approve the paper. Col. Cunningham said that even though Army was sympathetic toward the need for such technical guides, they could not find "the bodies." I stated that, like the Army, CIA did not have personnel available for such a program and furthermore, that we did not think it was necessary for us to have representation on the proposed "working groups" in the various categories mentioned in 304/16. I also stated

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that our interests would be properly cared for by representation on the Subcommittee itself. All present were heartily in accord with the CIA stand which led to a discussion as to what actually was intended by the establishment of "working groups" of technical assistants "...subordinate to the Subcommittee..." It was the consensus of all present that the paper was somewhat misleading when it recommends that "the State, Army, Navy and Air Force Departments and the Central Intelligence Agency should nominate a suitable official or officer to serve with each of the...working groups..." Rather was it intended that these agencies should designate certain individuals who would be available on a consultative basis as, if, and when required. Instead of sending out a corrigendum to the paper it was agreed that each member would bring this matter to the attention of his agency, since the paper would be scheduled for discussion at the next meeting of SANACC.

5. The Research and Development Board still thinks highly of the Subcommittee. The panel on Acoustics, RDB invited the members of the Subcommittee to attend a meeting yesterday on Psycho-Acoustics. Mr. Block and Cmdr. Knoll attended the meeting and reported that the session was very interesting and profitable.

MEMBER, ICAPS

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